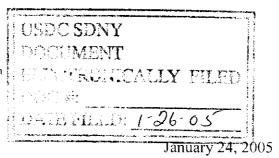
KRAMER LEVIN NAFTALIS & FRANKEL LLP

919 THIRD AVENUE

NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022 - 3852

STEVEN M. KNECHT ASSOCIATE TEL (212) 715-9427 FAX (212) 715-8041 sknecht@kramerlevin.com



PARIS 47, AVENUE HOCHE 75008 TEL (33-1) 44 09 46 00 FAX (33-1) 44 09 46 01

BY FEDERAL EXPRESS

Honorable Denise L. Cote United States District Court Southern District of New York 500 Pearl Street, Room 1040 New York, New York 10007

Re: Doreen Benson v. Lehman Brothers Inc.

SDNY No. 04 Civ. 7323 (DLC)



Dear Judge Cote:

We represent Lehman Brothers Inc. ("Lehman") in the above-captioned action and write to request that the Court adjourn the initial pretrial conference currently scheduled for February 4, 2005.

Plaintiff served Lehman with the complaint via hand delivery on January 7, 2005. Accordingly, Lehman's time to answer or move with respect to the complaint is January 27, 2005. Lehman will be serving and filing a motion to compel arbitration and supporting papers (as well as its Fed. R. Civ. P. 7.1 Statement and Notice of Appearance) no later than January 27.

In light of the foregoing, Lehman requests that the February 4 initial pretrial conference be adjourned pending the Court's decision regarding the motion. I have conferred with counsel to plaintiff, who consents to such request.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully yours,

Steven M. Knecht

cc: Lewis D. Thompson, Esq. (via federal express)

Kevin B. Leblang, Esq.

K1.3-2391780-1

Affiliate: Studio Santa Maria Milan * Rome

Alliance: Berwin Leighton Paisner London * Brussels